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TAGS: PINR AO

SUBJECT: (C/NF) QUESTIONS ABOUT ANGOLAN PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS' HEALTH AND POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS

Classified By: MICHAEL P. OWENS, ACTING DIR, INR/OPS. REASON: 1.4(C).

¶1. (S/NF) WASHINGTON ANALYSTS APPRECIATE POST'S COVERAGE OF ANGOLAN PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS' HEALTH, AS WELL AS POSSIBLE SUCCESSION SCENARIOS IN ANGOLA. IN LIGHT OF THE UPCOMING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SEPTEMBER, ANALYSTS ARE SEEKING FURTHER INFORMATION TO UPDATE POLICYMAKERS ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF DOS SANTOS' HEALTH AND ANY POSSIBLE INSTABILITY IN THE RUN-UP TO UNGA. AS TIME AND RESOURCES ALLOW, ANALYSTS WOULD HIGHLY VALUE ANY INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

¶2. (S/NF) HAVE DOS SANTOS' ACTIVITIES, BEHAVIOR, OR MENTAL FUNCTIONING CHANGED RECENTLY?

¶3. (S/NF) HAS HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH FAMILY OR CLOSE AIDES CHANGED, AND WHOM DOES HE RELY UPON THE MOST IN HIS DECISION-MAKING?

¶4. (S/NF) IF DOS SANTOS DOES NOT ATTEND MEETINGS, DOES SOMEONE ELSE RUN THEM IN HIS ABSENCE, OR DOES GOVERNMENT BUSINESS GO UNDONE? HOW MUCH, AND TO WHOM DOES HE DELEGATE?

¶5. (S/NF) IS THERE MUCH DISCUSSION ABOUT DOS SANTOS' HEALTH ISSUES OR WHO MIGHT SUCCEED HIM IN PRIVATE OR GOVERNMENT CIRCLES? ARE OFFICIALS JOCKEYING FOR HIS POSITION, AND IF SO, WHO?

CLINTON